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Area programme document

Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine

Summary

The area programme document (APD) for Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The APD includes an aggregate indicative budget of $28,876,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $51,500,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2018 to 2022.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2017.

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Programme rationale[1]

1. The Palestinian population in the subregion comprising the State of Palestine, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Jordan is estimated to be 7.7 million: approximately 4.8 million are living in the State of Palestine (2.9 million in the West Bank and 1.9 million in Gaza)[2]. The remaining 2.9 million live in neighbouring host countries: 560,000 in the Syrian Arab Republic, around 280,000 in Lebanon[3] and over 2.14 million in Jordan. Some 5.1 million Palestinians are registered as refugees with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). An estimated 110,000 Palestinian refugees have left the Syrian Arab Republic due to the conflict, with 32,000 now in Lebanon and 16,400 in Jordan. Approximately 29 per cent of registered refugees live in 58 overpopulated official UNRWA camps throughout the region, with the remainder living in unofficial camps, towns and villages.

2. The Palestinian population is young, with 39 per cent in the State of Palestine under the age of 15 years and 30 per cent between 15 and 29 years. In the Syrian Arab Republic, 39.7 per cent of Palestinian refugees were below the age of 18 years in 2016. In Lebanon, nearly half the Palestinian refugee population and 56.2 per cent of the Palestinian refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic are under the age of 25 years. In Jordan, 23 per cent of Palestinian refugees are children under the age of 15 years.

3. The subregion has experienced a highly unstable political, security and socioeconomic environment in the past five years. Living conditions in the State of Palestine have deteriorated against a backdrop of continued occupation, conflict cycles and the closures imposed in Gaza. Poverty remains high, with 39 per cent of families in Gaza and 18 per cent in the West Bank living below the national poverty line. Unemployment affects 26 per cent of the population (17 per cent in the West Bank and 41 per cent in Gaza), with 23 per cent of males unemployed compared with 39 per cent of females.

4. The ongoing conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic has devastated that country and the large-scale movement of refugees has had significant consequences on the region. In the Syrian Arab Republic, 57 per cent of the Palestinian population over the age of 15 years was unemployed in 2016. While Jordan has remained politically stable, the number of refugees is placing enormous pressure on the economy and host communities. Likewise, in Lebanon, against a background of protracted political instability and socioeconomic marginalization, unemployment among Palestinian refugees reached 23.2 per cent in 2015, with two-thirds living below the poverty line and 3.1 per cent in extreme poverty.

5. Over 90 per cent of Palestinian children in the subregion are accessing formal primary education (provided by governments or UNRWA) and over 60 per cent are accessing secondary education. However, the quality of educational services and access to them remain a challenge. In the State of Palestine, multiple barriers continue to be imposed by the occupation, with children vulnerable to violence and harassment on their way to school. There is also a significant gender gap in secondary education enrolment (58 per cent male

[1] Except where otherwise indicated, the data in the APD is drawn from government statistics; government ministry, agency and department reports; UNICEF surveys and research; and UNRWA reports and surveys.

[2] http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/site/512/default.aspx?tabID=512&lang=en&ItemID=1823&mid=3171&wversion=Staging

[3] Chaaban, J., N. Salti, H. Ghattas, R. Habib, A. Irani, T. Ismail, and L. Batlouni (2016). Survey on the Socioeconomic Status of Palestine Refugees in Lebanon 2015, American University of Beirut (AUB) and the UNRWA.

against 76 per cent female). The Syrian refugee crisis is straining education systems across the region. In Lebanon, attendance and completion rates, while high at the primary-school level, have been declining (from 96.3 per cent in 2011 to 93.3 per cent in 2015 for grade 6). School readiness through early childhood education is limited and generally unaffordable for the most vulnerable. In 2015, enrolment in kindergarten was at 52.1 per cent in Lebanon among Palestinian refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic; 57.3 per cent in the Syrian Arab Republic among Palestinian children and 57.3 per cent in the State of Palestine.

6. Knowledge-based rather than competency-based curricula leave students inadequately prepared for the transition to higher education and work. Patriarchal norms in Palestinian society, often accompanied by discriminatory legislation, leave women marginalized in terms of the types of studies and employment that they are permitted.[4] Youth unemployment is a major challenge in the Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, with 40.7 per cent of youth aged 15 to 24 years unemployed (36.4 per cent of males and 60.8 per cent of females), and 61 per cent in Gaza. Consequently, many wish to emigrate (15 per cent of youth in the West Bank and 37 per cent in Gaza). In Lebanon, unemployment disproportionately affects youth (36.4 per cent), with 74 per cent of adolescent Palestinian refugees living in poverty and 5 per cent in extreme poverty. Palestinian adolescents lack opportunities to actively participate in their communities. In 2015, in the State of Palestine, only 21.9 per cent of youth aged 15 to 17 years were involved in volunteer work, 2 per cent were members of civic, cultural or non-governmental associations and 10.5 per cent were affiliated with a political party[5].

7. Palestinian children remain at risk of violence, maltreatment and other violations, with potentially severe and long-term repercussions. They are vulnerable to violence due to the protracted conflict, on the way to school, at home and in communities. Regionally, child-protection systems require capacity development and enhanced coordination mechanisms. Those established at the national level have limited reach in Palestinian refugee camps.

8. In the community, schools and households, violent disciplinary practices prevail. In the State of Palestine, 70 per cent of students are exposed to violence at school.[6] A staggering 92 per cent of children aged 1 to 14 years experienced violent disciplining at home in the month prior to a 2014 survey and 27.4 per cent of males were exposed to severe physical punishment, compared with 18.9 per cent of females. In Lebanon, violent disciplinary practices were reported by 82.3 per cent of Palestinian refugee boys and 81 per cent of girls. In Jordan, 66 per cent of children aged 2 to 14 years were subjected to at least one form of physical punishment by adult household members in 2012. In the Syrian Arab Republic, 88 per cent were subjected to psychological and/or physical punishment in 2016.

9. Child labour and child marriage are increasingly used as coping mechanisms, especially in countries affected by the Syrian conflict. In the Syrian Arab Republic, 11.3 per cent of Palestinian children aged 5 to 14 years engaged in child labour in 2016.[7] Early marriage is common in the State of Palestine, with 24 per cent of women aged 20 to 49 years married before the age of 18 and 2 per cent of women aged 15 to 49 years married

[4] UNDP, (2015). Development for Empowerment, The 2014 Palestine Human Development Report.
[5] PCBS (2016), Palestinian Youth Survey, 2015 Main Findings, Ramallah, Palestine.
[6] MoEHE (2016), Annual Report 2015, Palestine.
[7] Child labour is defined as follows: children in the age group 5-11 years who performed an economic activity for one hour or more, or domestic work for 28 hours or more during the week preceding the survey; children in the age group 12-14 years who performed an economic activity for 14 hours or more, or domestic work for 28 hours or more during the week preceding the survey.

before the age of 15. This is a particular concern in Gaza, where the adolescent birth rate (girls aged 15-19 years) is 66 per 1,000 compared with 35 per 1,000 in the West Bank. In Lebanon, 5.9 per cent of Palestinian refugee girls and 13.4 of Syrian girls aged 15 to 19 years are married. In the Syrian Arab Republic, 13 per cent of Palestinian women aged 20 to 49 years were married before the age of 18.

10. The health conditions of Palestinians continue to reflect their socioeconomic deprivation, as well as their difficulties in accessing services. While maternal and child health mortality and morbidity indicators have improved in recent years, the capacity of governments and UNRWA to provide quality maternal and child health care and specialized treatment for newborns and infants is limited in all countries. Under-five mortality among Palestinians was 22 per 1,000 in 2014 in the State of Palestine, 8 per 1,000 in 2015 in Lebanon, 32 per 1,000 in 2016 in the Syrian Arab Republic and 21 per 1,000 in 2012 in Jordan. Most child deaths occur in the first year of life, particularly in the neonatal period.

11. The nutritional status of Palestinian children has slightly improved in all countries, except in the Syrian Arab Republic, where there are alarming levels of malnutrition. There have been encouraging improvements in key nutritional indicators for children in recent years, with declining levels of wasting (1.7 West Bank; 0.7 Gaza), stunting (7.7 West Bank; 7.1 Gaza) and underweight (1.5 West Bank; 1.3 Gaza).[8] Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life remains low for Palestinian infants (39 per cent in the State of Palestine, 26 per cent in Lebanon, 18.1 per cent in the Syrian Arab Republic, 22.7 per cent in Jordan), and most countries have health-system barriers, including early discharge and high levels of caesarean sections, which limit the early initiation of breastfeeding. In the State of Palestine, only 42 per cent of children aged 6 to 23 months receive an adequate diet and, in 2013, 26 per cent of children aged 6 to 59 months suffered from anaemia, as did 31 per cent of pregnant women. In Lebanon, 25.5 per cent of children and 33.4 per cent of pregnant women are reported to be anaemic.

12. The Middle East is classified as a water-stressed region.[9] Water resources in host countries continue to be strained, and living conditions in refugee camps are unsanitary. Due to the continued occupation, Palestinians have limited access to safe and adequate water. In Gaza, only 10 per cent of households have access to an improved water source and up to 97 per cent of the water from the coastal aquifer is unfit for human consumption. In the West Bank, the water supply is insufficient, with a consumption per person of 79 litres per day (as low as 20 litres per person per day in some parts of Area C).[10] Only 38 per cent of the population in the West Bank and 82 per cent in Gaza are connected to sewage lines. In Palestinian camps in the Syrian Arab Republic, only 37.8 per cent of households have piped water.

13. All four countries continue to have limited capacities and approaches to inclusive and specialized services. Children with disabilities are highly vulnerable and very likely to be poor and under-supported to realize their right to education and health. In the State of Palestine, only 45 per cent of children with disabilities are enrolled in regular education,

[8] PCBS, UNICEF and UNFPA (2015), Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014, Palestine.
[9] World Bank, (2016). SDG 2016 Preliminary Findings.
[10] OCHA (2016). Humanitarian Response Overview – Occupied Palestinian Territory, 2017.

with 17 per cent in special education and less than 1 per cent in vocational education. 38 per cent are out of school entirely.[11]

14. The integrated humanitarian and development programming approach used in the past cycle proved successful in maximizing synergies, effectiveness and sustainability and will be continued, with an emphasis on access to basic services, systems strengthening and humanitarian assistance.

Programme priorities and partnerships

15. The APD has been developed following consultations with the Government of the State of Palestine, host Governments and key counterparts, and is based on their development priorities and strategies. The programme design is informed by recommendations from evaluations and studies and builds upon ongoing successes and lessons learned as well as strategies applied in fragile contexts.

16. The overall goal of the 2018-2022 area programme is to further the realization of children's rights and improve access to basic services, the protective environment and social inclusion for Palestinian children and women. The key implementation strategies across the area programme are: (a) evidence-generation to inform policies and programmes; (b) capacity development of national and civil society partners, focusing on policies, coordination and systems-strengthening; (c) humanitarian assistance that also builds resilience; and (d) behaviour change communication to address barriers related to social norms, attitudes and practices. A particular focus will be on early childhood and adolescence. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will invest in strengthening adolescent life skills and employability through the education sector, and the participation and civic engagement of adolescents under social inclusion and communication initiatives.

17. The comparative advantages of UNICEF include its access to both Palestinian and Israeli authorities and the host Governments; its strong, long-standing partnership with UNRWA, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and other partners; its close cooperation with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations and local communities, with special efforts to develop their capacities and resilience; and its ability to quickly and effectively respond to crises and integrate humanitarian and development strategies in a protracted crisis context.

18. The APD will be implemented through the five outcomes presented below.

Education and adolescents

19. UNICEF will target the most vulnerable children, from early childhood through adolescence, focusing on improving access to and the quality of early childhood and basic education and other learning opportunities. The life skills and citizenship education initiative will be the overarching framework for promoting a knowledge society through improved education outcomes and economic and social development through improved employment and entrepreneurship.

[11] Chaaban et al. (2016) op.cit.

20. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will focus on strengthening the capacity of caregivers and teachers to use early childhood development (ECD) practices and apply positive discipline. Under the life-skills and citizenship education framework and in collaboration with schools, communities, NGOs and the private sector, the skills of adolescents for entrepreneurship will be developed alongside opportunities to practise them. Technical support will continue to be provided to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and other partners to develop the national framework for life-skills education, institutionalize humanitarian response coordination as a key ministry function and strengthen pre-primary education service provision. Policy advocacy and programmatic interventions will support increased access to quality education to reduce dropout and to protect education services from the impact of conflict in the most vulnerable areas.

21. In Lebanon, UNICEF will focus on enhancing early childhood learning and sustaining equitable access to basic education, learning opportunities and integrated community-based ECD services. The programme will support UNRWA and NGOs to improve the quality of teaching and of learning environments through capacity-building, with a special focus on inclusive child-centred education reform, remedial education and learning support. Social cohesion will be fostered through youth initiatives, life-skills education and participation programmes, in line with the youth strategic framework and the life skills and citizenship education framework.

22. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF will continue to focus on access to education to reach out-of-school and displaced children, supporting alternative forms of basic education and community-based ECD services. Adolescents and youth will be empowered through the life skills and citizenship education framework and adolescent engagement programmes, including HIV and healthy lifestyle awareness campaigns, with a concentration on increasing the opportunities of the most vulnerable Palestinian adolescents and youth to develop and implement social and business entrepreneurship initiatives in their communities.

23. In Jordan, UNICEF will continue to focus on quality and inclusive basic education for Palestinian refugee children. Emphasis will be on rolling out an inclusive education strategy to promote access for the most vulnerable, particularly those with disabilities; providing teacher training; and monitoring the implementation of the inclusive education toolkit in schools. UNICEF will support national institutions to implement youth-focused services that provide life skills and citizenship education programmes, asset and capacity development, coaching and mentoring and networking for adolescents and youth. Support will also be provided for Palestinian refugee children to strengthen access to integrated programmes and referral to specialized services.

Child protection

24. UNICEF will work with national and regional partners to ensure that more Palestinian children are protected from violence, exploitation and grave violations through the improvement of the capacity of partners and service providers to detect, prevent and respond to acts of violence against children. UNICEF will engage with parents, caregivers and teachers to enhance their knowledge and skills to promote non-violent behaviors.

25. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will continue to support the development and implementation of legal and policy frameworks, and management and coordination mechanisms at the national and community levels that promote child protection, including through the rolling-out of case management standard operating procedures for child

protection and gender-based violence. Child protection services, including structured psychosocial support to children affected by conflict and violence, will continue to take place within a longer-term child protection systems and case-management approach, which integrates service-delivery systems and capacity-building in humanitarian responses. In parallel, UNICEF will continue evidence-based advocacy with Israeli, Palestinian and international actors on the impact of grave violations on children including the ill treatment of children in detention. Technical capacities will be strengthened and quality standards promoted to improve access to child-friendly justice and protection processes, including specialized training and support for justice and social welfare actors. To promote non-violent behaviors, UNICEF , the Ministry of Social Development and partners will support children and adolescents to have better conflict management skills, to increase demand for the establishment and availability of services for children in need, and support enforcement of corporal punishment policy in schools. Innovative communication for development (C4D) approaches will reach families and communities with information that contributes to the prevention of violence and exploitation.

26. In Lebanon, UNICEF will continue to focus on preventive and response interventions in child protection and gender-based violence through community mobilization initiatives, enhanced psychosocial care and case-management services for children and adolescents who are at high risk or survivors of violence, abuse, and exploitation. Systems-strengthening will be carried out in partnership with UNRWA and NGOs. The national Child Protection Case Management standard operating procedures will be contextualized for better applicability to the context of the Palestinian refugee camps. Attention will be given to children with disabilities through the strengthening of referral pathways to ensure coordinated service provision.

27. In the Syrian Arab Republic, the programme will continue to support community-based child-protection interventions, including psychosocial support services that respond to the needs of those most affected by the crisis. Increased protection of children from explosive war remnants and from violence and abuse, including domestic discipline, will be promoted through school-based risk-education programmes, public risk-awareness campaigns and community initiatives, which will also target out-of-school children. Continued support will be provided to the establishment of basic child-protection case-management and referral mechanisms.

28. In Jordan, UNICEF will focus on reducing violent practices against children at home, in schools and in communities through C4D campaigns. Teachers, school principals and parents will be actively involved in promoting an inclusive, safe and violence-free learning environment. The protection of children will be enhanced through community-based approaches for the protection and rehabilitation of abused children, children deprived of parental care and children in conflict with the law.

Health and nutrition

29. The aim of the health and nutrition component is to increase the provision of and access to quality maternal and child health and development services and to promote appropriate maternal nutrition and infant/young child feeding practices for Palestinian mothers and children.

30. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will enhance the capacity of services providers on child and maternal health, nutrition and development, and will support systems strengthening for integrated early childhood development and the early detection of

developmental delays and disabilities. UNICEF will also advocate for evidence-based planning, including in relation to immunization and targeted interventions for the most vulnerable mothers and young children. The programme will promote social and behaviour change, generate demand for early childhood interventions, and strengthen mechanisms that ensure public accountability. In Gaza, neonatal and postnatal health services, including home visiting, will continue with a focus on high risk pregnancies and adolescent girls.

31. In Lebanon, the programme will continue to support UNRWA clinics for preventive child-health services, including routine immunization. To enhance maternal, neonatal and child health services for Palestinian children and mothers, UNICEF will support UNRWA efforts to mainstream the Family Health Programme. Through the baby-friendly hospital initiative, UNICEF will also help the Palestinian Red Crescent Society to improve service-delivery standards related to obstetric and neonatal care. At the community level, healthy practices and care-seeking behaviours will be enhanced, focusing on neonatal and infant care, ECD and parenting. Specific support will be provided to adolescent mothers through clinical and outreach services.

32. In the Syrian Arab Republic, the programme will be aimed at reducing the mortality rate among Palestinian infants through improved access to and quality of maternal health and nutrition care, including building local partners' capacity to provide services in high-risk areas. UNICEF will ensure the availability of critical medical supplies and promote correct feeding practices through health promotion activities for mothers and caregivers, focusing on internally-displaced-person shelters and vulnerable communities. The awareness of parents and caregivers will be raised to treat diarrhoeal diseases and detect acute respiratory infection in children.

33. In Jordan, UNICEF will continue to support UNRWA health clinics to strengthen and promote the Family Health Programme, the death-audit system and newborn-care services. A continuum-of-care approach will be adopted, with a focus on an improved, integrated primary health-care package that includes newborn, child and maternal health, nutrition, early detection and early-intervention services. UNRWA health-care providers and national institutions will be further supported through targeted capacity-building on the key components of integrated ECD.

Water, sanitation and hygiene

34. UNICEF will work with partners to improve access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities and hygiene practices for vulnerable families in the State of Palestine, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic with the aim of improving the health, nutrition and learning of children.

35. In the State of Palestine, the focus will be on supporting the elaboration and implementation of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)-sector policies, regulations and strategies at the national and local levels and building the sector's capacity. The programme will contribute to safe drinking-water production and distribution, including through seawater desalination at scale and the upgrading of existing brackish-water desalination systems, while improving the sanitation facilities of the most-vulnerable households and supporting their connection to sewerage networks. WASH services and infrastructures will be improved in such key institutions as schools and ECD and family centres.

36. In Lebanon, UNICEF will continue to support UNRWA to improve practices related to water-supply use, wastewater and solid-waste management systems in Palestinian refugee camps, including through C4D and hygiene-awareness initiatives targeting

children, adolescents and women. Advocacy will be conducted to ensure the connection to the Lebanese networks and water-quality monitoring.

37. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF will support WASH services at the national level under the country's Humanitarian Response Plan. The programme will be focused on upgrading WASH services and infrastructures in UNRWA schools.

Social protection and inclusion

38. In the State of Palestine, UNICEF will provide technical and capacity-building support to the Ministry of Social Development to improve coverage and targeting of integrated social protection systems, as well as to monitor and report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Technical and capacity-building support will also be provided to generate disaggregated and gender-sensitive data. Communication approaches will be employed to ensure children and adolescents have improved knowledge, skills and confidence to advocate for their rights.

39. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF will enhance the resilience of the most vulnerable families and children by increasing the capacity of communities and partners to provide social-care services and providing emergency-related supplies to ensure the inclusion of children with disabilities.

Summary budget table

Programme component	*(In thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Regular resources	*Other resources*[12]	*Total*
Education and adolescents			
State of Palestine	2 014	8 000	10 014
Lebanon	1 750		1 750
Syrian Arab Republic	900	500	1 400
Jordan	1 375		1 375
Child protection			
State of Palestine	1 763	8 000	9 763
Lebanon	1 250		1 250
Syrian Arab Republic	300	125	425
Jordan	875		875
Health and nutrition			
State of Palestine	1 763	8 000	9 763
Lebanon	1 250		1 250

[12] "Other resources" refers exclusively to non-emergency OR. Other resources-emergency (ORE) funds are expected during the course of the a a programme.

Syrian Arab Republic	750	450	1 200
Jordan	500		500
Water, sanitation and hygiene			
State of Palestine	1 763	18 000	19 763
Lebanon	250		250
Syrian Arab Republic	250	125	375
Social protection and inclusion			
State of Palestine	3 524	2 000	5 524
Syrian Arab Republic	300	125	425
Programme effectiveness			
State of Palestine	7 299	6 000	13 299
Lebanon	250		250
Syrian Arab Republic	250	175	425
Jordan	500		500
Total	**28 876**	**51 500**	**80 376**
State of Palestine	**18 126**	**50 000**	**68 126**
Lebanon	**4 750**	**0**	**4 750**
Syrian Arab Republic	**2 750**	**1 500**	**4 250**
Jordan	**3 250**	**0**	**3 250**

Programme and risk management

40. The programme priorities are derived from the relevant UNICEF country programmes of cooperation in Jordan, Lebanon and Syrian Arab Republic, and aligned to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for the State of Palestine (2018-2022) and the State of Palestine National Policy Agenda 2017-2022. Programme management will be undertaken in partnership with the Government of the State of Palestine and the other national authorities across the area programme. The United Nations country team and the humanitarian country team in the respective countries will serve as forums for coordination and partnership.

41. UNRWA is a key long-standing partner for UNICEF in the region. A memorandum of understanding was signed between UNICEF and UNRWA at the regional level in 2016 defining main thematic areas for collaboration and cooperation modalities, further strengthening the coordination of interventions and the monitoring of results.

42. The APD outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned

to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

Monitoring and evaluation

43. The results and resources framework, the individual country Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plans and the countries' harmonized approach to cash transfers assurance plans will form the basis for monitoring and evaluation. Each country office will monitor the performance of its area programme component by developing monitoring and evaluation plans focused on measuring progress towards the achievement of its outcomes and cross-cutting priorities. Joint studies will be conducted as appropriate.

44. Midyear and annual reviews with counterparts will be conducted to assess progress towards the realization of child rights. Midterm reviews of the APD will be undertaken at the country level.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Palestinian Children and Women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine – UNICEF area programme of cooperation, 2018-2022

Convention on the Rights of the Child: Articles 1-42 **National priorities:** State of Palestine National Policy Agenda, 2017-2022
2018-2022 United Nations Development Assistance Framework – State of Palestine **Strategic priorities, outcomes and outcome indicators that include UNICEF contributions:** Strategic priorities: 2, 3 and 4; Outcomes: 2.2, 2.4, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3
Sustainable Development Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 16 **Related draft UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Goal Areas:**[1] 1-5

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
Outcome 1: By 2022, more Palestinian children and adolescents, especially the most vulnerable,[2] benefit from improved access to quality and inclusive learning opportunities in safe and protected environments and are better able to contribute to their community and national development.							
State of Palestine	Gross enrolment: pre-primary education Baseline: 57.3% (2015) (M 57.7%-F 56.9%) Target: 70% (M 70%-F 70%)	Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) annual report	1. Policymakers and key stakeholders have coordinated and developed evidence-based, gender-responsive education and youth-reform policies. 2. Service providers have	MoEHE, Higher Council for Youth and Sports, local non-governmental organization (NGOs), Save the Children,	2 014	8 000	10 014

[1] The final version will be presented to the UNICEF Executive Board for approval at its second regular session of 2017.

[2] Identification and targeting of the most vulnerable children for all outcomes will be an ongoing process and will include children living with disabilities, living in areas with high restrictions of movement and/or high levels of political violence and children exposed to multiple deprivations. Issues of gender equity will consistently be addressed.

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	Percentage of adolescents in target areas involved in civic and economic engagement initiatives Baseline: TBD Target: 20% increase over baseline	Survey	increased capacity to deliver quality, inclusive education and provide opportunities to adolescents to develop and practise life-skills and citizenship education, including in humanitarian settings.	Education Sector Working Group/Education in Emergency Working Group, United Nations,			
	Transition rate between basic and secondary education Baseline: 89.7% (2015) (M 85.5%-F 93.2%) Target: 95% (M 94%-F 96%)	MoEHE annual report					
Lebanon	Percentage of Palestinian children of primary-school age (6-14 years) who are out of school Baseline: M 12.6%- F-8.3% - F(2016) Target: M 12% -F 8%	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), School Management Information System	1. The education sector has sustained capacity to deliver equitable, quality opportunities for learning and development to Palestinian refugees, from early childhood to adolescence, in safe and inclusive environments. 2. Palestinian youth, including young people with disabilities, have increased access to skills for learning, personal empowerment and employability programmes.	UNRWA, international NGOs (INGOs) NGOs, Lebanon County Planning Department	1 750		1 750
	Percentage of Palestinian youth and adults, male and female, who acquire relevant skills, including technical vocational skills and life skills, healthy lifestyles and employability Baseline: TBC[3] Target: 20% increase (F 50%)	KAP survey 2020					

[3] Based on youth Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Survey 2017

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
Syrian Arab Republic	Number of Palestinian children and adolescents who have context-relevant knowledge and skills Baseline: 20,000 (2016) Target: 25,000 per year (15,000 UNRWA and 10,000 General Administration for Palestine Arab Refugees (GAPAR) (50% F)	Partner and UNICEF monitoring reports	1. Palestinian children (6-14 years) have access to alternative basic education. 2. Palestinian pre-primary school children (3-5 years) have access to community-based early childhood development services. 3. Adolescents and youth benefit from life-skills programmes. 4. The most vulnerable Palestinian adolescents and youth benefit from increased opportunity to develop and implement social and business entrepreneurship initiatives in their communities.	Ministry of Education, GAPAR, UNRWA, Palestinian NGOs	900	500	1 400
	Number of Palestinian adolescents and youth who access a comprehensive package of youth services and opportunities Baseline: 20,000 (2016) Target: 50,000 (50% F)	Partner and UNICEF monitoring reports					
Jordan	Number of UNRWA schools with inclusive education toolkit fully operationalized Baseline: 0 (2016) Target: 171	Partner progress report	1. Equitable access to and retention in quality kindergarten 2 and formal and non-formal basic education are increased. 2. Young people have better access to services and opportunities focused on civic, social and economic engagement.	UNRWA	1 375		1 375
	Number of young people with improved level of community engagement among those with life-skill training Baseline: 4000 (2016) Target: 15,000 (50% F)	Pre- and post-assessments using KoBoToolbox and Bayanati					
Outcome 2: By 2022, more children, especially the most vulnerable, are better protected from violence, exploitation and grave violations.							
State of Palestine	Percentage of basic and secondary students exposed	MOEHE annual report	1. Strengthened child protection legal, policy and regulatory	Ministry of Social Development	1 763	8 000	9 763

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	to violence in schools Basic (6-15 years): Baseline: 70.4% (2015) (M 79.5%-F 62.7%) Target: 54% (M 61%-F 46%) Secondary (16-17 years): Baseline: 75.4% (2015) (M 80.7%-F 71.2%) Target: 60% (M 61%-F 59%)		frameworks. 2. Government and other service providers within the social and justice sectors have enhanced capacity to deliver quality and gender-sensitive child prevention and response services. 3. More parents, teachers and adolescents have increased knowledge and skills to eliminate harmful practices and better protect children (0-18 years) from violence, exploitation and grave violations.	(MoSD), Ministry of Justice, High Judicial Council, Attorney General's Office, NGOs, UNDAF			
	Continued existence of mechanisms to monitor and report on grave violations against children Baseline: Yes Target: Yes	Minutes of the Working Group on Grave Violations					
	Percentage of children (1-14 years) who experienced violent disciplining at home in the past month Baseline: 92% (2014) (M 92.8-F 91.6) Target: 80% (M 81%-F 79%)	Multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS)					
Lebanon	Reduction in percentage of children (2-14 years) who experience violent disciplinary practices Baseline: M 82.3% - F 81.0% (2016) Target: 10% reduction (M 74%-F 73%)	UNICEF household survey 2020	1. Formal and informal authorities, civil society actors and UNRWA have strengthened commitment, knowledge and capacity to prevent and respond to child maltreatment, including gender-based violence, and other forms of psychosocial distress/developmental difficulties. 2. Palestinian families and	UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs, INGOs, NGOs, refugee camp authorities	1 250		1 250

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
			communities have improved knowledge and skills to protect children and women from violence and abuse.				
Syrian Arab Republic	Number of Palestinian children who receive specialized child-protection services through gender-responsive case management Baseline: 0 (2016) Target: 1,000 (50% girls)	Partner reports	1. Capacity of child protection and sectoral key actors to provide specialized services to children through case management is increased. 2. Community-based child-protection and psychosocial support interventions for children are increased. 3. Awareness of community members and caregivers regarding the protection of children from violence and abuse is raised.	Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Ministry of Education ,GAPAR, UNRWA	300	125	425
Jordan	Number of girls, boys and women at risk of or exposed to violence receiving case management and referrals Baseline: 1,150 (2016) Target: 2,000 (700 girls, 700 boys, 600 women)	UNRWA and partner records	Children and women at risk of violence and exploitation have access to an integrated package of quality child-protection and gender-based violence prevention and response services.	UNRWA, national civil society organizations, community-based organizations	875		875
Outcome 3: By 2022, more vulnerable children and mothers have access to quality comprehensive health and nutritional systems and are better able to survive and reach their optimal development.							
State of Palestine	Percentage of targeted mothers in Gaza (15-17 years and older) receiving postnatal care within 2 days 15-17 years: Baseline: 41% (2017)	Ministry of Health (MoH)	1. MoH and other institutions have increased capacity to develop and implement evidence-based health, nutrition and early child development policies.	MoH, UNWRA, National Integrated Early Childhood Development Committee, Health Sector Working	1 763	8 000	9 763

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					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	Target: 65% >17 years: Baseline: 41% (2017) Target: 65%		2. Health professionals and other relevant service providers have increased capacity to deliver quality comprehensive and systems-based health, nutrition and early childhood development services. 3. Families and communities are more aware of the needs of young children and mothers on health, nutrition, WASH and development, and are more engaged in demanding early childhood development and intervention services for children with disabilities	Group, Health Cluster, National Breastfeeding Committee, Palestinian Water Authority, Coastal Municipalities Water Utility, MoEHE, WASH Cluster partners			
	Percentage of maternity facilities following updated protocols on neonatal care, including early identification of developmental difficulties in children and the principles of the baby-friendly hospital initiative Baseline: 10% (2017) Target: 30%	MoH					
	Percentage of districts/administrative units with health-care facilities providing standard early intervention services to children (under 3 years) with special needs Baseline: 0 % Target: 15 %	MoH					
Lebanon	Percentage of children (12-23 months) who received pentavalent I vaccine Baseline: 93.8% (2016) Target: 95%	UNRWA annual health report	Pregnant and lactating women, including adolescent mothers and children under 18 years, access enhanced maternal, neonatal and child-health services, including routine immunization, the promotion of health- and care-seeking behaviours and early identification of developmental delays/disorders/disabilities.	UNRWA, Palestinian Red Crescent Society, INGOs, NGOs	1 250		1 250
Syrian Arab Republic	Children (0-59 months) with diarrhoea in the previous 2	Situation assessment of	1. Pregnant women have access to proper maternal health and	Ministry of Health, UNRWA, GAPAR	750	450	1 200

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					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	weeks who received oral rehydration therapy Baseline: 43% (2016) Target: 65%	Palestinian refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic	nutrition care. 2. Parents and caregivers are aware of the proper treatment of diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infection and the danger signs of an ill child. 3. Mothers are practising proper infant and young child feeding, including exclusive breastfeeding.				
Jordan	Percentage of women attending postnatal care within 6 weeks of delivery Baseline: 87.9% (2015) Target: above 90%	UNRWA Health Department annual report	National institutions have strengthened health and nutrition system to provide quality integrated ECD services.	UNRWA, MoH, MoSD, NGOs, community-based organizations	500		500
Outcome 4: By 2022, more Palestinian children and families, especially the most vulnerable, have access to and use affordable, sustainable and safely managed water and sanitation services, and adopt improved hygiene practices.							
State of Palestine	Percentage of the population having access to an affordable improved water source located on premises, available when needed and free from microbiological[4] and priority chemical contamination Baseline: TBC (new Sustainable Development Goals-World Health Organization/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme	JMP annual progress report	1. WASH authorities have strengthened evidence and capacity to ensure policy implementation and coordination. 2. National capacity to deliver sustainable and safely managed water and sanitation services is strengthened.	Palestinian Water Authority, Coastal Municipalities Water Utility, MoEHE, MoH, WASH Cluster partners, United Nations, World Bank, Water Sector Working Group academic institutions, private sector	1 763	18 000	19 763

[4] With reference to the absence of E. coli or thermotolerant coliforms in a 100 mL sample.

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
	(JMP) pending) Target: 15% increase						
	Percentage of population having access to a private improved sanitation facility where faecal waste is safely disposed of on-site or transported and treated off-site Baseline: TBC (as above) Target: 10% increase	JMP annual progress report					
Lebanon	Percentage of boys, girls, women and men adopting appropriate hygiene practices Baseline: TBC (KAP Survey 2017) Target: 10% increase	KAP survey	Practices related to the use of safe drinking water, sanitation and environmental resources are improved.	United Nations Development Programme	250		250
Syrian Arab Republic	Number of Palestinian school children benefiting from improved water and sanitation facilities and increased awareness of safe hygiene practices Baseline: 0 (2016) Target: 10,000	Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), UNWRA	Schools are provided with improved WASH facilities.	MoEHE, GAPAR, UNWRA, INGOs, NGOs and private sector	250	125	375
Outcome 5: By 2022, more vulnerable children have access to quality, integrated social protection systems and are better able to participate in society and realize their rights.							

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
State of Palestine	Percentage of children living in poverty (income and multidimensional poverty; disaggregation to include household wealth quintiles) Baseline: Income poverty: 27% (2011) Multi-dimensional poverty (2014): 47% (age 0-35 months), 46% (age 36-59 months), 58% (5-14 years), 41% (15-17 years) Target: 10% reduction	Palestinian Expenditure and Consumption Survey, MICS	1. Ministry of Social Development, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and other institutions have increased capacity to design and implement evidence-based social policies and social protection reforms. 2. Key actors and civil society, including children, adolescents and their families, are more aware of the needs of Palestinian children and are more engaged in promoting the full realization of child rights.	MoSD, PCBS, civil society organizations, NGOs	3 524	2 000	5 524
	Number of children covered by social-protection systems Baseline: 372,600 (est. M/F ratio : 50:50) (2016) Target: TBD	MoSD administrative database					
	Partnership/collaboration for policy advocacy for children is established with civil society, NGOs/civil society organizations, private sector or Parliament committees Baseline: Not in place Target: In place	UNICEF reports					
Syrian Arab Republic	Number of Palestinian children with disabilities with access to health, education, child-protection and social-protection services through case management Baseline: 0 (2016) Target: 3,000 (50% girls)	Partner reports	1. Capacity of service providers is increased, ensuring services to children with disabilities. 2. Children are protected from weather hazards with essential winter kits and blankets.	GAPAR, UNRWA	300	125	425

Outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines (B) and targets (T)*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
Outcome 6: The area programme is efficiently designed, coordinated, managed and supported to meet quality programming standards in achieving results for Palestinian children and women.							
	Percentage of management and programme priority indicators meeting scorecard benchmarks Target: 100%	Insight	1. UNICEF staff and partners are provided with guidance, tools and resources to effectively design, plan and manage programmes. 2. UNICEF staff and partners are provided with tools, guidance and resources for effective advocacy on child rights issues. 3. Strategies to address cross-cutting issues related to child rights are developed and applied.	State of Palestine	7 299	6 000	13 299
	Percentage of funds received as other resources against 2018-2022 planned amount Target: 100%	Insight		Lebanon	250		250
				Syrian Arab Republic	250	175	425
				Jordan	500		500
Total resources					**28 876**	**51 500**	**80 376**